

REVIEW.

Thursday, May 7. 1713.

It was ever against my Principle to fall upon any Men, tho' my worst Enemies, while they were under the Misfortunes and Pressures of publick Calamities. The Hand of Justice is always heavy enough, and the Leaden Wings of Legal Resentment, never slow on other Accounts, come always swift enough for those who are to bear it: Men in Trouble need none to prompt their Misfortunes, and I owe too much of the Afflictions of that Kind, to give in the least to add to any ones Burthen.

And yet the Debt of Acknowledgement I owe to the Wonders of Providences, which have signally appear'd in my particular Case of late, will oblige me to make mention of the late Author of the *Flying Post*. Mr. Ridpath, at a Time when otherwise I could, however I have been treated by him, forbear it. I should be an Atheist if I did not see, and no Christian if I did not adore the infinite and inexhaustible Goodness of Providence in my own Case, and the just Retaliation of those injurious Things I have suffer'd from this Person and his Party, upon my own Head, and upon their Cause, by the immediate Direction of Heaven, which yet I shall do with few personal Reflections as possible.

To see a Person, who when I lately fell into publick Calamity, basely expose in Print the Names of such Friends as had been Bail for me—I say, to see in the first expose my Bail, and then run away from my own!

To see a Person, who in Print gave an Account of all possible Exaggerations of my late Disaster, falling into the Displeasure of a Court of Justice, and myself not dare to appear before the same Court of Justice, but fly his Country for fear of that Punishment, which his own Conscience gave him reason to expect!

To see a Person, who had frequently reproach'd with suffering the Indignity of the Pillory, tho' a Cause he pretended to espouse, run away from his Friends, and his Cause too, for fear of the Pillory!

To see a Person, who was not ashamed of his Cause enough, to restrain him from inimitable Indecencies in the Government and Ministry, yet so much

dishonour that Cause, as not to dare to suffer for it, in Justification of the Integrity of his Principles, and the Justice of his Party!

To see a Person, who had reproach'd me with my private Misfortunes in Print, when he could no otherwise answer me, fall into those very Misfortunes, for want of Courage to suffer for his Friends!

To see a Person espouse a Man in the greatest Insolences he could possibly commit against his Sovereign, and to see him desert them, and not dare to stand to what he was not ashamed to do!

To see a Person, after having forg'd, and asserted in Print, innumerable Lyes, and groundless Suggestions, not upon me only, but upon many other innocent Persons, fly from Justice, and not dare to show his Face to justify what he had written!

To see a Person, who has made loud Professions of Justice and Uprightness, and loaded me with infinite Calumnies and Aspersions, fly from Justice, desert his Bail, abandon his Cause, and run his Country!

Glorious is the Justice of Heaven on the Insolence of those who Triumph over the Disasters of their Fellow Creatures.

I have heard many things said in Defence of the Case, and of Mr. Ridpath's going away: Such as Complaints of Injurious Treatment, judging by *Inuendo*, insufficiency of Evidence, and the like, which all amount to no more than this, (*viz.*) That tho' the Facts were True; yet, That being sent'd, as he thought, against legal Proofs, they would have escap'd by the Letter of the Law: But the true Foundation of an Innocent Persons Defence, ought to be laid in the real Evidence of Truth, (*viz.*) That the Fact is not so, and not a Deficiency of Proof to fix it upon the Man.

As to condemning by *INUENDO*, if that be so, and supposing all he can say of it to be true, which, however I do not grant; *TET*, let the same Justice of God be again magnify'd, That he, who has a Thousand times reproach'd, not me alone, but many others, with meaning and designing so and so, which meaning and design was never in the Hearts of the Persons Charg'd, should himself be condemn'd, as he says, by *Inuendo*; in which Case I recommend to him and

and to his supporters, That awful Text, *Isaiah 33. 1. Wo to thee that spoiledst, and thou wast not spoiled, and dealest Treacherously, and they dealt not Treacherously with thee; when thou shalt Cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled, and when thou shalt make an end to deal Treacherously, they shall deal Treacherously with thee.*—He that does injury, shall suffer Injury.

I remember a Time, when in much a juster Cause (*I am sure*) tho' in behalf of the same People, my Case was not the same only, but much worse than Mr. *Ridpath's* Now is; for I had not only the whole weight of an incens'd Government upon me; but two other weights which he knows nothing of (*viz.*) 1. The Resentment of some in Power, because I would not answer other base Ends; and, 2. The Resentment of the then Ignorant blinded Dissenters and Whiggs, who were enrag'd at me, as if I had written the *shortest Way*, directly for their Destruction; and whose Eyes were never open'd, till I convinc'd them of my Integrity, by suffering for them, and ruining my Family for them.

In this Case, I was under Bail, and at Liberty: The Danger was as terrifying as possible, insomuch that when I went to an Honest and Good Man for Advice, all he would say, was in the Words of the Disciple to our Blessed Lord, *Master, save thy self*; my Friend, for some few Friends I had then too, and who were engaged deeply enough, as *Bail for me*, were so apprehensive for me, and for my Family, that they earnestly pressed me to go away; and offered to give it me under their Hands, that they had given me their Free Consent: But the Honour and Justice of the Cause I was embark'd in, the Character of the good People I was embark'd for, the Reputation of my own Integrity, and the Reproach of running from my Bail; These out voted Fear, and outvoted the Compassion of my Friends, and oblig'd me to resolve to bear the utmost Indignities, rather than quit the Cause I had undertaken. And do not say this is Merit, for I think every Honest Man who is embark'd in an Honest Cause, ought always to do so, and never dishonour his Cause; so as to shun suffering for it; and I can now, without boasting, say, to the good People, *who then acknowledged I serv'd them*, and suffered for them; *Te had a Man once* who could have dyed for you, had you kept fast to the Honour and Integrity of your own Principles, adhered to Justice, and acted with Moderation, and would dye still for the ancient Principles and Temper of the Whiggs or Dissenters upon those Terms. But when the best Men quit the Substance, and run into desperate Extremes, those Men must be quitted, and the blessed Medium of Truth and Moderation be adhered to by every upright Man.

And now behold, to what end does all the Violence of your enslaving Instruments Tend? Will they stand the Test for you! Will they suffer for the Cause

they rail for! Is their Passive Courage equal to Clamouring Fury! *NO, NO*, They fly from fiery Tryal, Disgrace the Cause they appear dare not look the Laws in the Face, for there be no Courage in suffering, without Innocence Design in acting: Nothing but Truth can make bold, nothing but suffering for Truth can make look upon the World with Contempt, or to Her with Confidence; Guilt is the shame of Punishment as Sin is the sting of Death.

If a Man is not sure his Cause is right, his suit of it just, his design Honest, his principle *no wonder* he flies; But if Truth be his Foundation, if his Country's Good be his clear disinterested View; Gaols, Pillories, Gibbets, and Death, nothing in them to terrify him.

I bless God, I can say *this was my Case*, and therefore when Danger threaten'd, Friends exhorted, Bail consented, *Nebemiah's* Words follow'd, *Shall such a Man as I flee?* I consider'd it would proach the Cause I suffer'd in; that many Thousands would hear I was run from my Bail, to a few I would know my Bail gave me their Consent; it would be remember'd to Posterity that I left my Bail, when it would be forgotten that I gave me leave: That it would reproach my People, my Friends, my Children, and my Parents, and upon these Considerations I resolv'd to hazard all rather than fly, and suffer'd the utmost accordingly.

But the Success I have had in faithfully serving and steadily suffering for the good People whom I sacrificed my Family for, and their Usage of me now is, *I confess*, a good *Memento Mori* to Mr. *Ridpath* and one of these things may be justly concluded *Either* he has not thought the Cause, or the People worth suffering for; the last I'll join with him, but the first all honest Men must condemn him. For if it was not a good Cause, why did he embark in it? If it is a good Cause, why is he afraid to suffer for it?

I forbear to say any more, because I would add to his Misfortunes.

M E M O R A N D U M.

I am oblig'd here for the Satisfaction of some honest, but prepossess'd People in the Country, to mention one Thing more relating to my self: It has been very maliciously reported, written in *News Letters*, and even printed in the North of Britain, that the Trouble I have been lately in, was for being Author of that insolent and unmannerly Libel call'd *The Ambassadors Speech*, &c. To which Answer is in short this, *viz.* That it not only is not *just* but not *rational*; and that it is not possible that it can be either such a Villain to Her Majesty, or a Fool to my self.